

time I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HERGER).

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution. However, I find it interesting that we are discussing the hardships faced by those with allergies and asthma, when just over 2 months ago the Democrats rammed through a health care law that will prohibit Americans from using pretax dollars to buy over-the-counter allergy medicines and impose harsh new taxes on prescription drugs used in asthma inhalers.

Beginning next year, the Democrats' health care overhaul will prohibit the 45 million Americans with flexible spending arrangements and health savings accounts from using this money to purchase over-the-counter drugs like Claritin or Zyrtec. This amounts to a \$5 billion tax increase. Those with asthma will soon see their out-of-pocket costs increase because the Democrats' health overhaul imposes a \$27 billion tax on drug manufacturers, including those who make inhalation drugs. Mr. Speaker, that's nothing to sneeze about. The Medicare actuaries expect this, quote, "tax would generally be passed through to health consumers in the form of higher drug prices."

Mr. Speaker, it's time to repeal the Democrats' health law and replace it with commonsense reforms that actually lower health care costs, not raise them.

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague from the Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. TERRY, for his participation today. We're not going to repeal the health care reform law. It's too important to American families. We're going to make it work. And we're all in this together to make it work.

If you have asthma or if you have an allergy, the new health reform bill is very positive for you and your family because now no longer will health insurance companies be able to deny coverage based upon a preexisting condition. So if your child has a severe case of asthma, that health insurance company can no longer say, No, we're not going to cover that.

The new health reform law is good news for American families, especially those with asthma and allergies, because no longer will health insurance companies be able to cancel your policy just because you get sick. So if you have a health insurance policy and you come down with a severe case of asthma or your child does, under our law health insurance companies will no longer be able to cancel you because you have developed that condition. The same goes for breast cancer, the same goes for any terrible condition. And this is a real world solution for our families all across America.

More good news from the health care plan. There are many students in col-

lege these days that before they reached age 26 they were often left in the lurch. Now, under the health reform law we say that health insurance companies have to keep your kids on your policy until they turn age 26. There are plenty of young students today that are having a tough time finding a job, and this is an important lifeline for them.

I think we should also focus on our Medicare patients, because sometimes a condition like asthma gets a whole lot worse as someone ages. The good news under the health reform law is that Medicare patients will get free checkups and preventative care. So hopefully, if a chronic condition is developing, we can prevent it if they go in, and not have to worry about copayments anymore that are very expensive if you're on a fixed income. And you can get coverage that you need, the checkups and preventative care, whether it's asthma or allergies or some other serious condition.

I think it's probably going to help Medicare patients as well because some of them are spending a lot of money on their pharmaceuticals and drugs. So if you need those inhalers now and you're falling into the doughnut hole because you're spending a lot, we're going to be able to help you out for those seniors that are falling into that doughnut hole, meaning they are spending a lot on their drugs, whether it's asthma, allergies, or some other medication that they need.

So I am not sorry that this turned into a debate on health care. We're not going to repeal it. We're going to work together. Those are the values we share in America. We're going to make health reform work for American families, all of us. We're in this together. We don't need to waste time on repeal. We're going to dedicate ourselves, all of us, to making it work for American families.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to urge my colleagues to support our designation of May as Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month. I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

□ 1730

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 407, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS TO NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY AND INTEGRITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 106 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (P.L. 110-315) and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following members on the part of the House to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity for a term of 6 years:

Upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader:

Dr. Carolyn Williams, Bronx, New York

Dr. William "Brit" Kirwan, Adelphi, Maryland

Dr. Benjamin J. Allen, Cedar Falls, Iowa

Upon the recommendation of the Minority Leader:

Dr. Art Keiser, Parkland, Florida

Mr. Arthur Rothkopf, Washington, D.C.

Dr. William Pepicello, Phoenix, Arizona

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3885, by the yeas and nays; concurring in the Senate amendments to H.R. 2711, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 1189, by the yeas and nays;

H. Res. 1172, de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

VETERANS DOG TRAINING THERAPY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3885, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3885.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 403, nays 4, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 298]

YEAS—403

Ackerman	Alexander	Austria
Aderholt	Altmire	Baca
Adler (NJ)	Andrews	Bachmann
Akin	Arcuri	Bachus